

Planners Cool Toward Annexation Plans of El Nido

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DAYLIGHT ROBBERY SUSPECT NABBED

Annexing Victor Approved

Acting on proposals to annex territory to the city for the first time since 1931, Torrance Planning Commissioners Wednesday said "yes" to part of the Victor Tract, and "maybe" to El Nido.

Commissioners recommended part of the Victor Tract for annexation. The area, lying between Torrance and Del Amo Blvds., and Henrietta St. and the Redondo Beach boundary, is at present uninhabited, except for a trailer park, and an Edison Co. plant. Plans are being made to erect a drive-in theater in the area.

Part of Island
The chunk proposed for annexation is part of a larger county island surrounded on three sides by Torrance and on the west by Redondo Beach. If annexation is successful, Torrance territory would surround a county island between Hawthorne Ave. and Henrietta St.

The matter will now go to the City Council and the City Attorney for further study. Further action on the requested annexation of El Nido, was postponed until February, pending results of the January meeting of the El Nido Civic Assn. Commissioner Bert Lynn, a member of the committee studying annexation, observed that, in his opinion, liabilities involved in annexing the area would exceed benefits.

Situation Confused
El Nido is a part of the Torrance Unified School District, but not of the city. It was the confused school situation which led residents to ask Torrance to annex them.

At the same time, members of the Redondo Beach City Council were talking of "court-ting" El Nido. Councilwoman Eunice Patterson made the proposal after it was suggested that the area offered a good place for future commercial development.

City Manager Francis E. Hopkins said that if Redondo Beach annexed El Nido, it would probably not pay for itself for a year or more after it was taken in.



JUDY BUFFENBARGER Wins Speaking Contest

THS Sophomore Takes District Speaking Title

Judy Buffenbarger, a sophomore at Torrance High School, was named the unanimous choice of the judges in the "Voice of Democracy" speaking contest in District 12 the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Thursday.

"I Speak for Democracy" was the title of her talk, given in El Segundo.

Records of her voice will be sent this week to state competition, where she will be entered with 12 other students for the state title.

Miss Buffenbarger, who lives at 1827 Florwood Ave., won local competition on Nov. 18, receiving a radio. For her district victory, she won a trophy. The state winner will be awarded a TV set.

The state winner will compete in the national contest, from which four winners will be chosen. Each will receive a \$500 college scholarship, and a week-long trip to Washington, D. C., and Williamsburg, Va.

Although this is the eighth annual contest sponsored by the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Radio and Television Manufacturers Assn., this was the first year that Torrance Jaycees had entered. Phil Lisman headed the local contest, while Dale Stanton was chairman of the district competition.

Two Beach Tracts Rejected by City

Two controversial tracts—in Ellinwood and Hollywood Riviera—were recommended for rejection Wednesday night by Torrance Planning Commissioners.

The action was taken because of failure of the developers of both areas to submit maps showing requested changes in tract maps. If commissioners had not acted, the maps would have automatically gone to the City Council without recommendation due to a 30-day legal limit.

Cmndr. William A. Mason reported that a meeting with representatives of Harry Kissel, Ellinwood developer, was unsuccessful. They refused to add a park and two connecting streets with Pacific Coast Hwy., requested by the commission, he said.

Residents of the surrounding areas had protested the lack of a park, and the fact that the only exit from the tract was through already overcrowded Hollywood Riviera streets.

Also unanimously rejected was the Hollywood Riviera tract between Palos Verdes Blvd. and the ocean. Although a verbal agreement was reached between representatives of the Don-Ja-Pan Corp., city officials, and school representatives on a school site in the area, maps showing the change have not been given to the commission.

The verbal agreement provided for a seven-acre site in the area.

Commission Gets North Zoning Plan

A zoning plan for North Torrance was presented to the Torrance Planning Commission Wednesday night, but officials of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn. indicated that they will object to some of the proposals.

NTCIA officials object to a plan which would rezone the north side of 174th St., from Prairie to Glenburn Aves., and the south side, from Prairie to Ainsworth Aves., C-2.

In a letter to the commission, president Muri Reeves declared that the NTCIA was concerned about setbacks and restrictions on the type of building in the area. He urged that restrictions be placed on prospective buildings.

Hearing Slated
A public hearing will be held on the zoning issues on Dec. 15. Other areas suggested for commercial zoning include: 174th St., south side, Hawthorne Ave. to Amie Ave., about one and one-half blocks wide. 180th to 182nd St., on Hawthorne, about two and one-half blocks wide.

178th to 182nd St., from Castmir Ave. to Arlington Ave. 182nd and Arlington Aves. (Continued on Page 2)

Planners Nix Theater Plan For Walteria

Despite assurances from the CAA, the City Engineer, and an investigating committee that they could find no serious objection to a drive-in theater at 238th and Hawthorne Ave., the Torrance Planning Commission Wednesday turned down the idea by a 6-3 vote.

Several representatives of airport businesses appeared to protest Clinton Glenn's application for the theater.

Tony di Mayle told the commission that the nearness of the theater to Torrance Airport might endanger the theater patrons.

Plans for night flying at the airport now under study, would mean that planes would be flying over the theater, he said. One plane crashing in the crowded theater would be enough to kill many persons, he declared. Although the theater would not be a hazard to the airport, he said, the airport would be a hazard to the theater.

Protests Heard
Other letters of protest were read from Ed Dietrich, airport manager; David B. Stewart, president of Vegas Air, Inc., C. R. Keeney, of Acme Aircraft, and E. W. Moore, Production Moore Service.

City Engineer Ronald Bishop told commissioners that the drive-in located near Walteria Lake, would create some drainage and sewage problems, but Glenn had agreed to correct these.

A letter from the Civil Aeronautics Authority indicated that this group could find no objection to the theater.

The three commissioners investigating the drive-in—J. A. Beasley, Laurence Wing, and Alvan Hill—all supported the proposed theater.

At the request of the Redondo Beach Planning Commission, Hill and Bert Lynn were appointed to meet with two Redondo commissioners to study zoning of territories along the boundary between the two cities.

The group will meet with Verne Johnson and Mrs. Bernice Venable of Redondo. An effort will be made to zone adjoining areas so that facilities will not be duplicated, or adjoining properties in conflict.

Recreation Plan Rejected
In other action, the commission rejected by 5-2 a request from the county for zoning of 23 lots along the beach for recreational (Continued on Page 2)



LOAD 'EM UP . . . Engineers Glenn Price, left, and Jerry Holloman, of the Torrance Fire Department, help to load a helicopter with leaflets which will be dropped Wednesday afternoon calling attention to the Firemen's "March" for Muscular Dystrophy which starts tonight. Fifty local firemen will go from door to door, asking a dollar a family to fight the fatal disease. Price is drive chairman, Holloman publicity boss.

Firemen 'March' On City's Homes

Torrance firemen will join with thousands of their brothers all over the West, tonight, in a Fire Fighters March for Muscular Dystrophy, as they go door to door calling on city householders.

A dollar a family is what they seek, according to drive chairman Glenn Price, of the fire department. The Torrance campaign is sponsored by Local 1138 of the International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL.

Wednesday afternoon, a helicopter from the Muscular Dystrophy Assn. of America, will hover over the Torrance area, and drop leaflets calling attention to the campaign.

Fatal Disease
Muscular Dystrophy, a fatal disease, affects more than 200,000 Americans, most of them children, it was stated. No cause has been found, and funds raised by Torrance firemen will go to the national association to aid in research and clinical studies.

Envelopes for collection have been handed out already in many sections, but Price urged that people hold on to them throughout the week in order that the firemen can pick them up in person.

"We will be calling at the homes, on our own time, between the hours of 6 to 10 p.m. If some people are sure that they will not be home during these hours, we would appreciate their dropping off the

Four Injured as Cars Hit Poles and Abandoned Autos

Three persons were injured in two week-end traffic accidents, both of which involved autos striking parked vehicles.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital after their car skidded 135 feet before hitting a pole and a parked car Saturday night, were Brooks L. Beckner, 21, of 709 Columbia Pl., the driver, and Guy A. Milligan, 19, of Gardena.

Officers Tom Pattishall and Miles Hamilton said the auto apparently was traveling south on Arlington Ave. at a high rate of speed and went out of control.

Injured at 190th St. and Western Ave. in the rain Saturday morning was Esther Cook, 23, of 1607 W. 146th St. She was a passenger in a car driven by Anthony G. Paquette, 25, of Redondo.

Police said the car was heading south on Western Ave. and collided with an abandoned vehicle.

Bruised when he was clipped by an auto this morning at Cabrillo Ave. and Plaza del Amo, was five-year-old Harold K. Johnson Jr. Witnesses said the boy was crossing the street near the corner when he ran into an auto.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital with concussion and possible severe internal injuries yesterday was Fortunato Zavala, 24, of 1600 W. 22nd St., who was injured in a crash on Normandie Ave. north of Anaheim in Harbor City. Police said Zavala's auto smashed into a concrete bridge railing. No other autos were involved.

Higher Values, Government Expense Boost Home Taxes

Increased home valuations and increased government costs have pushed tax bills upward, Roland E. Bouck, assistant County Assessor, told the North Torrance Civic Assn. Wednesday.

Speaking before a packed house at McMaster Hall, he told of the role of the assessor's office in preparing tax bills.

All over the county home values generally are increasing, he said, as are costs of government functions. The county collects taxes for the city and many other government subdivisions, such as schools, water districts, libraries and sewer districts outside county taxes, he said.

When a complete survey of property is made, he said, the assessor arrives at an equalized

value for each property which is not more than 80 per cent of the market value.

In areas such as Torrance, he said, the presence of many large industries make the tax bill lower than it would be otherwise. He did not have figures available to compare Torrance's tax rate with other cities, he said.

TWO-THIRDS OF COUNTY, CITY VOTE

Torrance followed Los Angeles County in the percentage of voters casting ballots in the Nov. 2 election, according to figures released last week by Registrar of Voters Benjamin S. Hite.

Clubs Slate Discussions, Ladies Night

Problems of setting up a pharmacy for UCLA's new \$50,000 medical center will be discussed before the Optimist Club tonight by Jack Heard, chief pharmacist.

READY FOR SANTA . . .

Torrance business streets took on that Christmas look last week-end when a Hollywood decorating company moved in and strung up the street decorations shown here on Sartori. Similar decorations were raised on El Prado, giving the downtown shopping center its official dress for the holiday season.